(b) if so, whether Government propose to issue directions for financing such purchases specially in view of great emphasis on social forestry and need for bringing waste land under cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Banks provide credit assistance for purchase of virgin lands/neglected estates provided such purchase forms part of an integrated scheme covering both acquisition of lands/estate and development thereof. However, purchase of land *per se* which only involves transfer of land from one individual to another individual is not considered as one falling within the definition of productive purpose and is therefore not eligible for credit assistance from banks.

Apex Body Banks

1626. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to form an apex body for banks on the lines of Steel Authority of India Limited; and

(b) if so, what are the functions proposed to be assigned to this body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Decline in Export of Textile products to South East Asia

1627. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of textile products to South East Asia has been going down during the past few years; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Utilisation of Service of Private selling agents by NTC

1628. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the National Textile Corporation is not utilising the services of private selling agents for institutional sales; and

(b) if so, whether it is not affecting the sales and whether Government propose to issue directions to the Corporation to make use of private selling agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) National Textile Corporation has not been utilising the services of private selling agents for its institutional sales. The institutional sales have not been affected by non-utilisation of the services of private selling agents. The institutional sales were worth Rs. 15.36 crores during the period 1985-86 (April 85 to January 86) as compared to Rs. 4.12 crores during the year 1984-85.

Release of goods on the basis of forged bank guarantees

1629. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain cases have come to the notice of Government wherein certain import firms got their goods released from the Central Warehousing Godown after presenting forged bank guarantees: